

presiding officer of the Senate for one year is a permanent officer?

DELEGATE ADKINS: For the period he is elected he is the permanent presiding officer, vis-a-vis the president pro tempore, who is not a permanent officer.

DELEGATE DELLA: The President Pro Tempore is not a permanent officer as the presiding officer?

DELEGATE ADKINS: I certainly do not want to get into a quarrel with you, sir, about the rules of the Senate of Maryland. My understanding has been that the permanent presiding officer was the president. The president pro tem is not the permanent presiding officer.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Della.

DELEGATE DELLA: That is true, Delegate Adkins, but it is a question of terminology now, of a permanent officer. Does it mean that he is a permanent officer of the Senate as long as he is there, or is it for the period of one year when he is elected as the presiding officer of the Senate?

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Della, I take it from Delegate Adkins' previous answer that it was his intention, at least, by suggesting the addition of the word "permanent" that "permanent presiding officer" meant the person elected to the office of presiding officer. He would be regarded as the permanent officer for the entire term for which he was elected, even though at some particular period during that term he might be absent and there would be a temporary presiding officer in his absence.

DELEGATE DELLA: It is only a question of terminology, what is meant by "permanent".

I think the president of the Senate would be a more descriptive term than a permanent officer.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Adkins.

DELEGATE ADKINS: I do not know that anything further needs to be said. I agree with the term president of the Senate too. The Committee on Style saw fit to change it. I want to tie it down so the president pro tem cannot succeed to the office of governor or lieutenant governor in the event of the death of his predecessors.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Penniman, the only reason the Committee on Style changed the language from president of the Senate to presiding officer of the Senate is because the similar article on the legislative

branch used the term "presiding officer of the Senate."

Is there any reason why the executive article could not use the term president of the Senate?

DELEGATE PENNIMAN: Certainly not. I was trying to call it to the attention of the Convention and not freeze a word in that was contrary to the decision of this body.

THE PRESIDENT: It seems to the Chair that the obvious intent of all the parties is to designate an officer, and there is much greater certainty by the use of the word "president" than by the use of the words "presiding officer."

DELEGATE MARION: Would the Speaker of the House also have to be mentioned since the legislative article refers to the presiding officer of each house? If you use "President of the Senate" there you have to use the equivalent term for the presiding officer of the House of Delegates, it seems to me.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I do not have the article in front of me right now, but it seems to the Chair at least that it is sort of getting the cart before the horse to struggle with indefiniteness in this article on an important matter such as gubernatorial succession in order to avoid using perhaps two words in an article on the legislative branch.

Is Delegate Gallagher here?

Delegate Burdette.

DELEGATE BURDETTE: I simply rose in the absence of Delegate Gallagher, Chairman of the Committee on the Legislative Branch. Since I am a member of the Committee on the Legislative Branch, I did want to protect what I thought to be some intent on the part of the Legislative Branch Committee that the rules of each house would determine the character of the presiding officer in that house.

There are other members here who are better able than I to speak to the importance of the point.

THE PRESIDENT: Let the Chair make this suggestion so we can move on. I will consider an amendment submitted by Delegate Adkins with respect to section 4.10 to eliminate the words "presiding officer" and restore the words "president of the Senate" with the understanding that when the article on the legislative branch is considered tomorrow, if it appears de-